

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 03502 171915Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----048541 171917Z /42
O 171556Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5799

S E C R E T AMMAN 3502

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (ATHERTON, ALFRED L., JR.) XF
SUBJECT: ATHERTON VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST

REF: STATE 097555 (TOSEC 040073)

1. PRIVATELY AND FOLLOWING HIS PRESENTATION TO NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE GROUP, I SAW KING HUSSEIN AND PROVIDED HIM WITH THE INFORMATION REFTEL. WE MET A LITTLE AFTER NOON LOCAL TIME, APRIL 17. KING THANKED ME FOR KEEPING HIM INFORMED.

2. HE WISHED TO CONFIRM SPECIFICALLY, WHICH I DID FOR HIM, THAT VISIT WAS ONLY PRESENTLY PLANNED FOR ISRAEL AND EGYPT. I PUT STRESS ON FACT THAT ATHERTON WOULD CONSIDER, IN ADDITION TO JOINT DECLARATION, QUESTION OF GUIDELINES. KING HAD JUST A FEW MOMENTS BEFORE STRESSED TO WAR COLLEGE GROUP INADEQUACIES WHICH HE SAW IN A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES EXERCISE, PARTICULARLY IF IT INVOLVED ONLY A REGURGITATION OF THE AMBIGUITIES OF UNP RES. 242 IN A DIFFERENT FORM OF WORDS.

3. I SUGGESTED, AND KING AGREED, THAT WE MIGHT MEET IN A FEW DAYS TO DISCUSS ANY SPECIFIC IDEAS (PARA 3) WHICH KING MIGHT WISH TO CONVEY TO US.

4. IN KING'S ADDRESS TO WAR COLLEGE, ONLY REALLY SIGNIFICANT
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PAGE 02 AMMAN 03502 171915Z

NEW POINT TO EMERGE WAS FACT THAT HE LOOKS VERY MUCH ON HIS PRESENT EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE AN ARAB SUMMIT AND UNIFY THE ARAB POSITION AS A KIND OF EXERCISE WHICH WILL SUPPLANT AND SUBSTITUTE FOR PRESENT EFFORTS FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. HE SEEMS TO CONSIDER PEACE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE NEARLY RUN THEIR COURSE WITH WIND-DOWN OF SADAT INITIATIVE, BEGIN APPARENT INTRANSIGENCE, ISRAELI OCCUPATION

OF SOUTH LEBANON, AND NEW PHASE WHICH BEGAN YESTERDAY, WHERE
ISRAELIS SUBSTITUTE SEMANTIC FLEXIBILITY ON 242 "ON ALL FRONTS"
ISSUE FOR SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE, ALTHOUGH HE WOULD, AS HE MADE CLEAR
TO ME PRIVATELY, LIKE NOTHING BETTER THAN TO SHOW REAL
FORWARD MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE.
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: OVIP, XF, US, (ATHERTON, ALFRED L JR)
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